

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/799,403

Examiner

Ross N. Gushi

Applicant(s)

ANDRE ET AL

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amended 3/2/06
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 4-9, 12-19, 22-41
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Q. Hoellwarth on 3/22/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 2, before "outer shell" delete "an" and insert – a conductive --.

Cancel claim 21.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding the 35 USC 112 rejection, after consideration of applicant's arguments and reconsideration of the drawings and specification, the examiner is persuaded that the claimed invention is enabled.

Regarding claim 1, after consideration of applicant's arguments, the examiner is persuaded that the prior art does not suggest the DC connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including the conductive outer shell, the redundant power contacts, the connector being configured for 0/180 degree connection, and the axial contact distance of less than 5 mm as claimed.

Regarding claim 7, the prior art does not suggest the connector arrangement as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination

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including the signal line, first power line, second power line, the single center signal contact, the lateral redundant power contacts, where the connector mates in both 1 and 180 degree orientations as claimed. Regarding claim 16, the prior art does not suggest the DC connector arrangement as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including the DC receptacle and DC plug as claimed, where the outer shells form a first power line and the inner electrodes form a second power line as claimed, and the detents and flexures as claimed. Regarding claim 24, the prior art does not suggest the DC connector arrangement as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including the outer conductor including the two conductive layers and seams as claimed, the plug mateable at only 0 and 180 degrees, the lateral redundant contacts being configured to transmit DC power as claimed. Regarding claim 38, the prior art does not suggest the DC connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including the connector being configured for only 0/180 degree engagement while providing power in both positions, the planar inner electrode and conductive outer shell, the redundant power contacts, and the conductive outer shell having the annular shape with a width greater than height as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

ROSS GUSHI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

